Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03589 220331Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /079 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8136

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3589

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR LUSAKA ADDED AS INFO ADDRESSEE

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SF, RH, PINT

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA'S MEETING WITH IAN SMITH

THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROVIDED US THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM A PRESS INTERVIEW GIVEN BY FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA CONCERNING HIS MEETING WITH IAN SMITH IN SALISBURY TODAY, JULY 20:

Q. CAN YOU CONFIRM IF YOU SAW SMITH TODAY? A. YES. I MET WITH HIM IN SALISBURY.

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Q. FOR HOW LONG?

A. FOR ABOUT THREE HOURS.

- 1. WHAT DID YOU DISCUSS?
- A. WE REVIEWED MATTERS OF COMMON CONCERN.
- 1. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF MR. SMITH'S REASONS FOR HIS

ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT AND WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF HIS ELECTION ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITAIN?

A. AS I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION, MR. SMITH DID NOT INDICATE THAT THERE WOULD BE A CUT-OFF OF FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. INDEED, THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE.

MR. SMITH HOPES TO WIN OVERWHELMING SUPPORT SO THAT HE WILL BE IN A STRONGER POSITION TO NEGOTIATE A STEELEMENT. NATURAALY, HE IS DISAPPOINTED IN THE LATEST ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS LWHICH DEVIATE FROM THE EARLIER PROPOSITIONS. THE RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER NOW WISHES TO CONSOLIDATE HIS POSITION BOTH INSIDE RHODESIA AND VIS-A-VIS THE OUTSIDE WORLD IN ORDER TO MOVE FIRMLY AND RAPIDLY TO AN SETTLEMENT WHICH ENVISAGES MAJORITY RULE UNDER A STABLE GOVERNMENT AND WHICH WILL ENSURE THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER, ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND RETENTION OF THE CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT OF WHITE AND BLACK RHODESIANS.

Q. DID YOU REPORT TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER? A. YES. I DID SO IMMEDIATELY.

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Message Attributes

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FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM A PRESS INTER VIEW GIVEN TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SF, RH, (SMITH, IAN), (BOTHA, PIK), (BOTHA)
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK

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